Docket No.: APK-00201 (PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Edward J. Cheal et al.

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned Confirmation No.: N/A

Filed: April 5, 2006 Art Unit: N/A

For: TAPERED JOINT PROSTHESIS Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT A

Mail Stop PCT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows: